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Books

GIRARDEAU'S LIFE AND WORK.

Southern Christian Advocate, a Methodist paper published at Anderson, S. C., says:

The new volume entitled "Life and Work of John L. Girardeau, D. D., LL. D.," is one of the most interesting books that has ever found its way to our review table.

Dr. George A. Blackburn, of Columbia, is the editor and chief contributor. But it contains several valuable chapters written by other skilled writers. One of the best of these is by Dr. Thomas H. Law, of Spartanburg. His delineation of Dr. Girardeau is a masterpiece.

The chapter on the evolution controversy, which so stirred the Presbyterian church 25 years ago, was written by Dr. R. A. Webb. It contains the speech made by Dr. Girardeau on this subject which he was three hours in delivering.

This book is very useful as a compendium of South Carolina religious history.

It has an especial appeal to all the lovers of Presbyterianism, one of the purest and most vital forms of Christianity extant.

VITAL TRUTHS.

This is the title of the book which has just come from the press. Its author is Rev. John Lee Allison, D. D., pastor of the Presbyterian church of Alexandria, Va. Dr. Allison is one of our most active and successful pastors, and has done good work in each of the several charges which he has had during his ministry, but this, we believe, is his first appearance before the public as an author. This volume contains twelve sermons and ad-

resses on the following subjects: "The Soul's Immortality," "A Multitude of Witnesses," "Missionary Congress at Washington," "Links That Bind the World," "Seeking to Excel," "True Worship—Its Influence on Character," "Glory of Womanhood," "Depths of Divine Riches," "The Wonderful Christ," "Religion in the Fine Arts," "Religion in the Home," and "Faith—Its Power and Preciousness." Dr. Allison handles these vital topics in a clear and practical way, bringing out the great truths which are associated with them. This is done in a spirit which is pleasing and attractive, and which will afford enjoyment and profit to those who read them. They are greatly enriched by well selected passages of Scripture, which present the great truths of religion. They are brightened and made helpful by appropriate illustrations gathered from many sources. They are beautified with quotations from the masters of prose and poetry.

This volume has been published at the request of many of Dr. Allison's friends, who heard these discourses delivered by him, and who are anxious to have them preserved in permanent form. His many other friends will find delight in owning the volume, and those who do not know Dr. Allison can find no better way of getting acquainted with him than reading this book, for it carries a message from a warm heart to all those who will receive it.

Dr. Allison is entirely sound in his interpretation of Scripture and in presenting the great truths of religion. It is hoped that this book will meet with such a reception on the part of the reading public that Dr. Allison may be induced to give the public some more of the treasures from his well stored mind. The book may be purchased either from its author or from the Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va.



Cordially Yours
John Lee Allison

THE SABBATH DAY.

By Rev. Charles R. Bailey.

Even in the face of a wicked and perverse generation the Church must not fail to sound out her warning, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Men do not like to hear this. They much prefer to use the holy day as a holiday for their own purposes. They much prefer to consider that keeping the Sabbath day is old-fashioned and antiquated and that all who are modern in their thinking do not hold to any such out-

of-date practice as keeping the Sabbath. But the Sabbath is old-fashioned and religion is old-fashioned, older than Abraham, and hell is old-fashioned; and I want to go to an old-fashioned heaven, even if it is out of date with some free-thinkers and free-livers.

However, God always will preserve

to Himself a people, those who will respect His laws and love His institutions. To those the Sabbath is always a holy day, a delight, and these will always rejoice to meditate upon the Sabbath. We will not stop to raise any of the numbers of fruitless questions that can be raised about the Sabbath, but will confine ourselves to matters that will be of spiritual growth in grace. Therefore let us confine and concentrate our minds upon the character of the Sabbath.

The Sabbath is a memorial. All the little children have seen the tombstones in the cemetery. These tombstones are memorials. They help us to remember who is buried there. I was once in a graveyard where they had not put up these things to remember by, so they had forgotten who was buried there and even where the graves were. Then, too, you have seen a lock of hair or a ribbon to remember somebody by. My mother used to keep a ringlet from the first cutting of my little baby sister's hair. That was to help her remember how it looked. Jacob and Laban set up a pile of rocks to remember a covenant by. Now the Sabbath is a memorial. And it is about as old a memorial as we have. It comes to us from the beginning of mankind's stay upon the earth. The Sabbath is the oldest memorial. Now, tombstones decay. I have seen marble so worn and weatherbeaten that I could not read the letters. This made me think that marble would not last always. Even the Pyramid of Cheops will at last crumble away. But the Sabbath is a memorial that is old and yet new, for it does not decay.

It comes to us from the Garden of Eden. We do not have many things coming to us from the Garden of Eden. It has been a long time since Adam lived and not many things remain of what was there in the garden with him. The Sabbath is one and the family is another. Not many things come down to us from the creation.

The Sabbath is a memorial of the creation. By it we are kept in mind of the great fact that God created this earth, that God made us. This idea of creation is so utterly foreign to our senses that we need something to help keep it in mind. God has kindly given us the Sabbath day, one in seven, to help us remember that He created us and all the things around us.

The Sabbath is a day of rest. How beneficent is our Creator to provide for our bodies and minds a weekly respite from toil and care. How marvelously adjusted. The periodic rest day is provided and the human machine needs just that rest in just that period. In the economy of this world life needs one day's rest in seven. The animals need it. During the French Revolution the people enthroned the Goddess of Reason and abolished the seventh day and made it a tenth day of rest. We are told that the cart horses of Paris showed the effects of the difference. They needed the rest. The French went back to the seventh day rest. All nature needs rest. A man can work and live longer by resting one day in seven. But I need not argue the need of a rest day. God rested on the seventh day of creation. And as God rested man is called on to follow God's example and rest, too. In not many things can man follow God's example. God created, but you cannot. You cannot love as God

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